

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A unitary membrane for use in a pressing apparatus includes a pair of longitudinal edge portions and a semipermeable portion having a plurality of intercommunicating pores. The semipermeable portion is positioned between the pair of longitudinal edge portions. Wherein the unitary membrane includes a formed fabric and has a thickness less than about 0.1 inches. The semipermeable portion has a permeability greater than zero and less than about five CFM per square foot as measured by TAPPI test method TIP 0404-20. A method of making the unitary membrane includes the steps of providing a carrier fabric which is very permeable and forming a plurality of intercommunicating pores in the carrier fabric.